

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
ACDA-12 OMB-01 /092 W
-----110340 261724Z /53

R 251530Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8212
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USNMR SHAPE BEL
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 2182

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC
USCINCEUR FOR POLAD
USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, CY
SUBJECT: NATIONAL/MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETING FAILS TO REACH
AGREEMENT

REF: NICOSIA 2143

1. ALL INDICATIONS ARE THAT JOINT MEETING OF NATIONAL AND
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MINISTERIAL COUNCILS AUG 24 HAS FAILED TO REACH AGREEMENT
YET ON HOW TO HANDLE CYPRUS PROBLEM AS IT ENTERS WHAT
PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU CALLS ITS NEW PHASE. AT END OF
RELATIVELY LONG THREE AND HALF HOUR MEETING, GOVERNMENT
SPOKESMAN ISSUED STATEMENT SAYING MERELY THAT PRESIDENT
HAD BRIEFED COUNCILS ON HIS CONTACTS IN GREECE AND THAT
VIEWS WERE EXCHANGED ON FURTHER HANDLING OF CYPRUS PROBLEM.

NO PRESIDENTIAL PRESS CONFERENCE HAS BEEN SCHEDULED AS NORMALLY WOULD HAVE BEEN THE CASE IF SIGNIFICANT DECISIONS WERE REACHED. PRESS IS WIDELY REPORTING THAT ANOTHER JOINT MEETING WILL BE HELD IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS' TIME.

2. WE BELIEVE THAT ONE OF PRINCIPAL ISSUES ON WHICH AGREEMENT COULD NOT BE REACHED WAS QUESTION OF WHETHER TO REAFFIRM 1977 DENKTASH-MAKARIOS AGREEMENTS AS BASIS FOR SOLUTION OF PROBLEM. WE WERE TOLD BY HIGH-RANKING DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DP) LEADER SHORTLY BEFORE JOINT MEETING BEGAN THAT THIS ISSUE WOULD BE ON AGENDA. CHIEF PROTAGONISTS ON THIS QUESTION ARE SOCIALIST (EDEK) AND COMMUNIST (AKEL) PARTIES, LEADERS OF WHICH ARE REPRESENTED ON NATIONAL COUNCIL. EDEK LEADER LYSSARIDES ARGUES VOCIFEROUSLY THAT 1977 AGREEMENTS ARE OUTDATED AND SHOULD BE ABANDONED IN FAVOR OF FURTHER INTERNATIONALIZATION OF CYPRUS PROBLEM, INCLUDING RECOURSE TO SECURITY COUNCIL. AKEL AGREES WITH INTERNATIONALIZATION OF PROBLEM BUT ALSO INSISTS THAT DENKTASH-MAKARIOS AGREEMENTS ARE STILL APPLICABLE.

3. EDEK MOUTHPIECE TA NEA REPORTS AUG 25 THAT UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT WAS REACHED AT JOINT MEETING ON RECOURSE TO SECURITY COUNCIL. COMMENT: THIS MAY BE TRUE IN SENSE THAT NO SIGNIFICANT BODY OF GREEK CYPRIOT OPINION WOULD OPPOSE TAKING PROBLEM TO SC AGAIN. HOWEVER, WE DOUBT THAT UNANIMITY WAS REACHED ON CONTENT AND TIMING OF NEW
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APPROACH TO SC. IN THIS CONNECTION, IT IS OBVIOUS FROM PRESS LEAKS (SEPTTEL) THAT UPCOMING VISIT TO CYPRUS BY STATE DEPARTMENT COUNSELOR WAS DISCUSSED AT JOINT MEETING. END COMMENT.
STONE

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